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they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose

#### The President and Congress.

manifested its resentment, whereupon These facts are fresh in the memory of the public and it is sincerely to be hoped pact little State! that they are fresh in the memory of Congress.

Presently, to wit, on December 17, Congress passed a resolution reciting the terms of the President's imputation contained in his message as aforesaid. The resolution ended with the formal demand:

"That the President be requested to transmit not themselves wish to be investigated by secret service men,' and also transmit to the House any evidence connecting any member of the House of Representatives of the Sixtleth Congress with corrupt action in his official capacity, and to inform the House whether he has instituted proceedings for the punishment of any such individdelinquencies to the House of Representatives."

that he is at a loss to understand this unfortunately familiar complexion. The public of the whole country and Congress itself are suffering from no illu- support an establishment more than on coffee is well within the limits of pound on coffee would subject that comits own sense of honor.

it will be as fully appreciated by American people.

### And This in Comer's State!

to the muzzle with seductive oratory rides upon the sumptuous bosom of the and suggestion some more. It was a haleyon and vociferous gathering.

ing task of broaching the national strong- troops:" what cost to Thingumbob. It had been for one of the military profession. his dream. Thenceforth he would de- Sometimes we wonder whother our vote to it his choicest nightmares. The Atlantic coast was denuded of battlesystem of pikes and highways and per- such a neighborty tacit understand- well known as that of Zurich.

to new banquets.

Now comes to us from Alabama-6 00 loathsome for belief. It is not only as it were. 2 00 that the politicians and the corporas of tions are joined in an effort to perpetuto ate the leasing of the penitentiary convicts to individual contractors, thus withholding them from public service on the roads; the fact is that they are Published by the Sun Printing and Publishing conspiring to lower the contract price and so throttle competition even in that abhorrent industry. On this provocation the always esteemed Mobile Register says:

down the financial return to the counties and the State gives an opportunity to reopen the subject, and the best service that county commissioners can do the public if the proposed conference is held will be to enter into an agreement to work publication wish to have rejected articles returned down in the list of States, and Improved highways be merged into a new one, launched for will give an indirect return to agriculturists and the public generally that must be considered along

with the immediate return in road construction." Will any good come of this? We doubt it. Alabama hates Northern corceived a message from President Roose- porations, but apparently it loves and VELT in which the integrity of that body cherishes the domestic product. Down was grossly assailed. After the reading with Steel, down with Standard Oil, of the message Congress immediately with banks and railroads and the like. Governor COMER subscribes to all this with raucous vociferation. When the President Roosever announced to local corporations, however, combine the country through the press that he not only to divert to their own greedy had called the chief of the secret ser- purposes the State's best asset but to vice to his aid and was preparing his secure it at starvation rates Governor ammunition with the intention of "mak- COMER's attention is concentrated on ing good" and emphasizing his assault. the groaning millions of New York and Pennsylvania.

This in Alabama, B. B. COMER'S com-

#### Concerning a Peace Trust.

A naval police supplied by the United States and Great Britain to preserve order on the high seas and prevent war among the nations is an idea set forth by Mr. PERCIVAL A. HISLAM, an Englishman, and approved by Rear Admiral CASPAR F. GOODRICH, U. S. N.

Assuming that there is no longer any to the House any evidence upon which he based | conflict of interests between the United his statements that the 'chief argument in favor States and Great Britain, Mr. HISLAM of the provision was that the Congressmen did says that "the territorial status quo, the ual by the courts or has reported any such alleged the peace of the world, that Great tors in the course of the unnumbered In the message which was read in understanding to police the Atlantic duction of a tariff law may be induced Congress yesterday the President says and the Pacific oceans. That is to say, to vote for such a tax. Great Britain would undertake to maintain order in European waters and the if there were a national opposition party resolution. His sending for the chief United States in Asiatic waters. There with intelligent and intelligible princiof the secret service and his public would be an Anglo-Saxon peace trust. ples, a strong and honest leadership announcement that he was preparing No naval consolidation would actually worthy of the confidence of honorable the ammunition necessary to bombard occur. Each Power would control and and patriotic men! Then there would Congress impart to this statement an command its own fleet, employing it, be no serious talk of a tax on coffee, however, for police duty in the marine territory designated.

sion as to what the President meant and twice as strong as the navies of any possibility. implied. This new message is a plea in two other world Powers, and as that evasion and avoidance, is thoroughly of the United States contemplates apprehended as such by the entire counrior to the navy of Japan, the only even at the mention of KIPLING and "Our try, and must be dealt with by Congress rival Power in the Pacific, it may be thet responsible for a supposed world in the light of its own conscience and presumed that as both Great Britain opinion that Canada is the gateway of the and the United States possess the re- north polar regions with the gate wide I ran across a peculiar case where this rule does It is a momentous occasion, and we sources to carry out their naval polisincerely trust that the importance of cies they would be able to perform this opinion was confirmed by the "winter the police duty assigned to each under carnivals" of twenty years or so ago, that the compact. In an article in the cur- these festivals and the gorgeous ice pal-Congress as it undoubtedly is by the rent number of Army and Navy Life ace of earlier days spread a conviction the founding of the Hague tribunal he Alabama seems to be returning to and Sir George Clarke, the British her muttons. Not many months ago authority on naval affairs and imperial dian climate. there was a good roads convention in defence, used to discuss the formation Mobile. Great men gathered there in of an Anglo-Saxon international police, winter revels brought out the following large and garrulous numbers from all but came to the conclusion that it was resolution from the Montreal Board of parts of the State, including Birming- "a counsel of perfection impossible of Trade: ham if not Decatur. They were loaded execution " Admirai Goodsich no longer considers it impossible in the and empty as last year's gourds for the ciple of arbitration and the growing that the bolding of winter earnivals emphasizes reception of assorted food. They as- ciple of arbitration and the growing sembled at the Cawthon and other yown- respect of the nations for the Hague ing hostelries and they were entertained tribunal as a mediator. He goes fur- mal conditi with assiduity and profusion. They took ther than Mr. HISLAM both in optimism discourage immigration which is so necessary

bay, rejoiced in its prismatic waters and "Assuming merely for the purpose of argument thrilled to the distant music at Frascati, and not in the least as representing the true state Then they sailed back to town and talked of affairs, that a fleet of twenty battleships in the Atlantic and enother of twenty battleships in the Pacific would preserve the peace of the world on the seas, why would it not be well for the prin But not one of those unbridled orators cipal Powers to contribute to the maintenance of ever touched the pulse of the only force these two feets a sum proportionate to their conthrough which good roads in Alabama cern, turning their surplus ships over to the comcan ever be secured. They boasted and mon policemen and reducing their naval budges they promised and ventilated charming to an amount merely necessary to maintain a and impracticable theories. One full proper coast guard service! Supposing on the throated statesman from the neighborhood of Birmingham, after complimenting the Mobile cuisine and paying an im- at a moment's notice, why should the great Pow passioned tribute to the wives and ers maintain buge standing armies? Imagine mothers of the local Gracchi, proceeded the weight of the decision of the Hague tribuna to consecrate himself to the always allur- backed by an army of a quarter of a million of

box in the interests of good roads or This is disarmament, and it assumes indeed of any other local enterprise, a profound confidence in the police Thrones might crumble and dynasties force. The police we are acquainted disintegrate in effete Europe, but he with by contact and observation are would ever be found hammering faith- jealously watched by the objects of fully at the gates of the Federal Treasury, their protection, and they are more The delight was contagious. Several often criticised and condemned than persons fainted with emotion. The pic- praised and commended. Admiral persons fainted with emotion. The pic- praised and commended. Admiral to keep open the ventilators in order to assist ture was stupendous and convincing. Goodsich wants it distinctly under- to the war against disease and especially against Then the newly elected Senator, JOBN stood that he cherishes no illusions RANKHEAD, moved forward with sur- about the difficulties that confront the charged brisket and inclodious periods. promoters of a world police on sea and He too had sworn to shed good roads land; but he lives in hope, which is an upon his fond constituents, no matter at unusual and gratifying state of mind

audience swayed and gulped and the ships to make a spectacular voyage of consumption of peanuts was incredible, policy to the shores of Asia without Zwingli. But from the first to the last there was a Cabinet assurance from a European ord of the public convicts, the Power that nothing untoward would a leitery through which Alabama | happen on the Atlantic during the "prac- manuscript which has just come to light should will ever present itself with a coherent tice cruise." There could have been have reposed forgotten and unknown to histo

manent good roads. The convention ing; there might be one in the future passed away in a capture of valedic- to last indefinitely and embodying Mr. tory. The hosts found themselves just HISLAM's proposal. Who since the where they had been from the begin- friendly understanding with Japan shall as a questionable expedient justifiable ning and the statesmen branched out say it would not be feasible, unless the only on the ground of needed revenue. a treaty, which is not to be expected? from the State over which the great Counsels of perfection are not as remote coffee has been on the free list practioctopus killer and approved trust as they used to be. At the same time buster B. B. COMER presides a tale of the Auglo-Saxon police force has an so so graft and combination almost too air of improbability, a mirage aspect,

The Police Problem. The manifest merits of a State police force managed from one main office, with constables working in every community under a centralized direction, proposal to form this organization "The charge made that the convict employing but, loud and insistent, the question orporations have entered into a compact to keep "What is there in it for JOHN?" is asked from Montauk to Buffalo.

Meanwhile it would not be unprofit-

able for residents of New York city to consider impartially the progress that five years from 1872 to 1897 inclusive, convicts on the public roads. The return from has been made since consolidation this labor will be equal to that which would be toward effective and honest policing of given by free labor, or about five times the amount their town and to ask themselves how a convict offered by the leasing corporations. Druch of what has been gained would In the matter of public roads Alahama is low be lost were the present department to the public good through the agency of the benevolent Mr. RAINES by the dis- basis it means a tax of 55 cents to be paid interested Mr. WOODBUFF, Mr. BARNES, Mr. ALDRIDGE and their associates. If any citizen should undertake this task he would be obliged to undergo a preliminary course for the eradication from his mind of the Byrnes myth, which still persists in truly amazing virulence Possessed of a complete knowledge of formation as to the present state of things, the student of police affairs will have no cause for shame for his town. Imperfect as it is, the police force of New York is now a better and more effective weapon for the protection of society than it has ever been before.

We do not assert that a State conmade into an excellent department. But who would pay for it? For whose interests would it be managed? And what would there be in it for JOHN?

#### The Proposed Tax on Coffee.

It is reported from Washington that the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives intends to freedom of the sea and the peace of include in the tariff bill now in course prices and not by taxing American conthe world are the sole objects which of preparation a paragraph imposing sumers at the rate of \$2.50 a year per animate the minds of statesmen and a tax of five or six cents a pound on family. the public in either country," and he coffee. We do not believe it. Yet it proposes in the interests of economy in may be true, and it is possible that the naval expenditure, as well as to keep Republican Representatives and Sena-Britain and the United States come to an trades and dickers involved in the pro-

How different would the situation be the tariff by its friends." But there is and the tariff on sugar is the equivalent As the policy of Great Britain is to no such party, and in consequence a tax of 67 per cent. A duty of five cents a

The Canadians are very sensitive about open most of the year. They believe that Admirat Goodnich says that long that snow carnivals and ice palaces were before the first Hague conference and possible at any season of the year, and that millions of dollars and hundreds of thousands of settlers have been frightened away by false notions of the Cana-

A proposal to hold another of these

" The council of the Montreal Board of Trade is unanimously opposed to the proposition to hold a winter earnival in this city, believing that such unduly our winter climate, creating the impres sien in other countries that ice and snow are no for the development of this Dominion.

We doubt if the world as represented by those to whom Canada's climate would make a particle of difference is quite as ignorant as it is supposed to be by the Canadians. The immigration returns of that country for recent years show that hundreds of thousands of people were either well informed or willing to ring risk freezing to death, probably the joyful times, and we are disposed to believe that a repetition of them would be a benefit rather than an injury. Canada's winter is Canada's wealth enables ber to grow the finest wheat in the world.

#### Bad Air in Trolley Cars. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUK-Sir: I beg to all your attention to an evil which I think affects the majority of New Yorkers and which I believ the Health Department should investigate. It is the bad air in the trolley cars of our city. Why should the ventilators be kept closed when the

Health Department informs us that fresh air is the greatest foe of consumption? Only to day I rode in a Madison avenue car in the greatest which there were only four ventilators open and they were opened in such a manner that they could get no air. Why should not the Health Department compet the street railway companies PRILLIPS B. THOMPSON. NEW YORK, JANUARY 8.

Book Forgotten for Five Centuries.

From the London Globe. A Swiss journal announces the discovery to the city library at Zurich of a manuscript work of John Stumpf, whose works of the Reformation period are well known. The book consists of Stumpf was a prior of the Order of St. John If we did not remember the :emark able find of the Institutes of Gains in the chapter house at Verena by Niebuhr, the church his-torian, in 1816, it would seem incredible that the rians for nearly five centuries in a library ac

#### COFFEE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4 .- The imposition Senate shall call that understanding With the exception of the period of the civil war and a few years thereafter cally since 1880, although numerous ef forts have been made to transfer it to the dutiable list. The civil war tax was removed in 1872.

The price of coffee for many years has depended mainly upon conditions in Brazil, the country of largest production. Between January, 1872, and January, 1882 wholesale prices ranged from 11 cents to 25 cents, although running generally from 15 to 18 cents. For a few years after 1881 there came a drop to an average receive but scant attention when the of about 9 cents. The period of 1887 to 1897 saw a return to higher prices, the emanates from JOHN RAINES. Little average being about 17 or 18 cents. Durdiscussion is heard of the possibility of ing the latter half of that period Brazil suppressing crime under such a system, plunged into extensive planting and an in 1891, was a gold monometallist of the but, loud and insistent, the question enormous increase in output resulted in straitest sect, though intelligent withal, enormous increase in output resulted in a drop in prices to less than eight cents and the so-called "Goschen plan" had alin 1898. The huge yield continued and prices fell to their minimum of 5% cents in 1903. The average since that time has been about 71/2 cents. For the twentye consumption in this country averaged about eight pounds per capita. The cheaper prices prevailing since 1897 have resulted in an increase to a little over eleven pounds per capita, the average for recent years. A tariff of five cents a pound on coffee means inevitably an increase in the price of coffee, and on this for every man, woman and child in the United States. It means that about 10 per cent. of our national revenue will come from taxes on coffee and sugar

The incidental benefit to Porto Rico and

Hawaii of such a tariff on coffee is a matter for separate consideration. The purpose of the tax is not the protection of the industries of those telands. It conditions that existed previous to would be indefensible if that were the January 1, 1808, in the territory now in- basis of the proposal. With all possible cluded in New York and of adequate in- concern for the welfare of the people of the islands it must be admitted that it is little short of preposterous to compel millions of people to contribute a total of \$40,000,000 or more a year in order that a few thousand Porto Ricens and Hawalians may make a living by growing coffee. All talk of the ability of those islands eventually to supply our full requirement is absurd. It is doubtful if with all the stabulary, honestly conducted and in- labor needed and with all the suitable telligently commanded, could not be land planted in coffee Hawaii and Porto Rico could supply one-third of our requirement. Both produce high grade coffees. We now buy from other countries more high grade coffee than the islands produce or are likely to produce unless a high tariff should set an unjustiflable premium on their product. The market for Porto Rican and Hawajian coffee is a business and not a political question. We should encourage their industries by buying their goods at fair

At the present time there is a deficit in the national revenues. There is also a balance on hand accumulated during earlier years. It is at least a reasonabl assumption that a return of business activity, now seemingly as certain as anything of the sort can be, will restore the revenues to their earlier level. The ques- against which non-permissible tariff will be tion of revenue, therefore, should be considered in the larger light of future needs rather than in the light of a temporary deficit. An income devised to meet present conditions would yield a huge surplus should imports, as they doubtless his statement, if not his actual words: will, again reach the propertions of those he wrote: "Quarter of a century ago five of 1907. The tariff on champagne is the gold dollars exchanged for five silver taels would be no "revision of equivalent of about 55 per cent. ad valorem modity to about a 6? per cent. rate.

#### Tabloid Calendars. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SEN-SIT! I read with

ictorest the article on "Calendars in Tabloid Form." In trying to apply the prine Men think, alss, time's fooled away,"

not seem to hold. The date selected was May 19, 1959. The previous leap year is '56. One-half of this is 28. Di viding by 7 gives remainder 0. Add 2 for twee tieth century gives 2. Subtract 8 for three years. since leap year gives - 1.

ording to the rule the -ist day of May Now the question arises what is the - 1st day of May? Is it April 30? On this assumption May 19 Calculations using the figure values of the

months as given elsewhere in the article show that May 19, 1959, is a Tuesday. What's the answer? D. JOHNS. BINGWAMTON, Jenuary 3. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Regarding

to day's article on mnemonics as applied to the calendar there is one point which is not mentioned, namely, the behavior of January an Pebruary in leap years.

In the verse "Time flies fast" Tuesday is apportloned to January and Friday to February but in leap years these "ladex days" are respectively Monday and Thursday

Any one with a perpetual calendar or even with the calendar of 190s can verify this.

NEW YORK, January 3. P. E. TIEMANN.

### A Mystery.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIE! The family a rent in twain. Some of us say a cruller is an article constructed of dough, raised by the upilit. ing power of yeast, cut so as to fold up like a get though not so enthusiastically say a crutter is an article likewise raised by yeast or baking powder and cut out so as to form Still others insist a doughnut is of appear. former. Montreal's winter carnivals were why should one say, "Don't look at the hole in The head cook maintains that a doughnut is a

commodity of edible quality, cooked as per Mrs Rorer or as mother used to wook it, but that the hole makes the crutier; and that a doughnut, properly so called, is a nut shaped affair without iow then which to a cruffer and which is a

## doughnut? And if so, why?

High Functionaries Made Canens. It may be news to some to learn that Bismarck

and Moltke were Canons. The Raiser has nomi-nated the Minister of Finance of Prussia, M. de heinbaben, a Canon of the metropolitan chapter of Merseburg, in succession to M. Althoff, de-ceased, formerly Minister of Public Instruction. These Canons, we further learn, are high functionaries raised to ecclesiastical rank by the King of Prussia. It seems that when spoilation of religious houses took place in Prussia the Government reserved the revenues of certain of the

#### Death of the Oldest Nan. From the London Globe.

The oldest nun in the world has just died at the Cistercian Convent of Sarneu, near Lucerge. She was known as Mother Andrew, and was bor on December 14, 1812. She made her profession on June 10, 1837, and from that time had charge of the vestlary of the convent until 1897-abo sixty years. She was able to read without specunder the doctor's care until her last fliness. She never quitted the convent from the time ion, and passed her religious life under six different prioresses general of the order

Stella. Why do you want to marry Bella Because two can live more expensively THE FUTURE OF SILVER.

Mr. Moreton Frewen Explains Senator Teller's Letter.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Pray permit me as an old contributor the privi-lege of your columns for a short explana-tion. The London Times of to-day has two cables from its New York correspondent referring to a letter written to me two othe since by Senator Teller. The letter was in no sense private, and I sent a copy of it to a friend in Paris, whose judgment in these exchange problems is valuable. My friend has, I conclude, translated the letter for the Economiste Europeen, and re ranslated into English it has now re turned

to America. Quite without warrant, however, the correspondent of the Times attributes to Senator Tellar's letter "free silver leanings Nothing could be further from the fact there is not a suggestion of "free silver or even of international bimetallism in the entire letter: it advocates not indeed the Goschen plan, but merely an inquiry as to the policy of that plan. Now Lord Goschen, our Chancellor of the Exchequer ready been recommended for England's adoption single handed by no less a body than our Royal Commission on rency which reported in 1889. It was indeed the only unanimous recommendation arrived at by that illustrious body of experts (vide Report, Part II., 137, and Part III. 36). Really, if public opinion on your side the sea is more anti-silver than Lord Goschen plus the whole of Lord Herschell's commission, you invite a violent reaction and at an early date. I gave evidence last February on the Goschen plan before the gress, and I do not propose to burden your columns with the argument; any one interested in a question so dull can read the evilence, but I hope you will allow me to say real "silver question") by pretending that it does not exist. The fall in silver last year every thoughtful man must admit has practically suspended the effective demand of eight hundred million people for our goods. The Chinaman who bought ur manufactures through a bill of exchange on New York for five gold dollars eighteen ago then paid nine of his silver tacks for that bill, while to-day he must pay and as his wages and the price of all that he sells is no higher he has ceased to buy in our Western market until fortuitously the xchange value of his money may chance to rise

The fact is, and all your Consuls and ours in the Far East know it, that collapse fol-lowing collapse in Eastern exchange during thirty years has had this inevitable and foreseen result, that stimulated by lower and lower exchanges Asia exports to more and more and draws her balance of trade in that "commodity," silver, which is also her only money metal, and with that metal builds her new mills and factories to compete furiously with ours in our own sarkets. With a vengeance indeed, then, these lowered exchanges have "carried Troy into Italy." Hence we have the problem of the unemployed here which is so pitiful this winter. Under the stimulus of cheap silver the Orient has awakened to a vigorous industrial life; given quarter of a entury more of exchanges so low as to-day yours, together with countless small manufactures where the labor cost of the article tion and its officers the most loyal support. roduced bears a high proportion value, will pass bodily over the Pacific from Pittsburg and Lynn and Lowell to Asia It is easy to see that the day is at hand when of the Missouri with steel rails relied in Shansi: that province, nay, all China, is the future seat of an industrial competition effectual for I believe your Constitution would not allow you to levy a higher tariff n your Pacific than in your Atlantic ports And how as matters are can this displacement of industries be avoided? I have not Senator Teller's letter with me, but I recall and five taels paid a day's wage to twentyfive Chinese mill hands, while to-day five gold dollars exchange for more than twelve taels, and twelve taels now pay a day's wage to sixty Chinese mill hands.

There is no reference to "free silver" in such a statement as this. I do not recall that the argument was referred to at all in the campaign of 1896; gold prices and wages at that time, instead of rising as now with unexampled rapidity, were falling fast, while silver exchange also was failing. Thus in its present racial aspect there was then no "silver question." No one now proposes to be pelted once more with the mud and brickbats of a new "sixteen to one" or even forty to one campaign; that is all ancient history; but there is nothing whatever gained by our pretending to ourselves that the problem of collapsed exchanges across the Pacific is not by all odds the most serious problem which has ever yet con fronted our civilization or yours.

The future of silver is not going to be decided by the mining camps of Colorado; it is going to be thought out by an educated opinion. The lesson will soon be learned that a fall in the price of silver is only another expression for a rise in the gold premium on every bourse and in every MORETON FREWEN. INNISHANNON, IRELAND, December 23.

#### Grille in House of Commens. From the London Globe

The origin of the ladles' "grille" and the exclusion of women from the House of Commo were explained by the Speaker in his evidence the Committee on the Admission of Strangers.

"I believe," the Speaker said, "ladies were admitted to the body of the House until a certain lady would not withdraw when notice was taken hours to clear her out. She was a very celebrated professional beauty of the name of Mrs Musters, and members crowded round her and protected her for three hours. After that they determined they would not let any more ladies n again. The only place the ladies had to view the proceedings in the old chamber was through the ventilating shaft at the top of the old Stepben's Hall. There was a sort of balcony where the ladies sat or stood; they could hear the debate, and just catch sight of the members

This continued up to the fire of 1834. The incident of Mrs. Musters seems to have taken place in 1778. The Speaker also stated that there is only one room in the Clock Tower where an of fender can be confined, and this room will ac commodate only one.

#### The Birth and Death of a doint doke TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN -SIT: About the year 1890 I had the pleasure of being a guest with the Hon. William M. Evarts at a house in Lenox.

Sitting on the plazes one morning he gave me

and death of a joint joke":
In the early '50s he and his cousin, Judge E.
Rockwood Hoar, were at a Vale alumni meeting in New Haven and the latter was called on for speech. "What shall I say?" be asked Mr. the course of his remarks Judge Hoar said that the first duty of a young lawyer was to get on and the next to get honor. "I pulled his cost-tail," said Mr. Everts. "and whispered: And the test to get honest.' When he sat down gratulated ouselves on the creation of a joint

Mr. Evarts went on to say that several years later Judge Hoar sent him "The Diary of Ser leant" [ forget the name], an English barrie ter, just published, in which under date of 1846 he writes that at a bar dinner on circuit, being called upon to speak, he said, among other things, that the first duty of a lawyer was to get on, the second to get honor and the last to get honest "and that," said Mr. Evarts, was the death of

Happy Stretch.

The Christmas tree is over. Far off the picule launt An wicked as they want

DISPUTE OF THE GOLFERS. Why the United States Association Should Have Undivided Authority.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Various statements having from time to time appeared in the press to the effect that it is seriously contemplated to organize a golf association as a rival of the existing ruling body, I take the liberty on account of my past connection with the United States association as president and on account of my interest in the sport to trespass upon your columns to the extent of this comunication. The suggestion of secession from the ex-

isting organization seems to be based on a notion that the Western golfers have not always received at the hands of the United States association the consideration to which they feel themselves entitled. believe this view to be mistaken. The reason the West has not had a larger representation on the executive committee, cult to secure the attendance of the Western and other distant members at the various meetings of the executive committee on account of the distance necessary to be travelled to New York city, where the meetings are usually held, and which place has in a secondary school and one out of ever board. In order to hold the meetings at short notice, which is sometimes necessary. and as frequently as might be desired. seemed desirable to have a majority of the committee from the eastern section of the The game baving been played in a human life it is clear that the the beginning in this country generally of our population who at any time had re somewhat earlier in the East than in the ceived education of one of the grades in West also accounts to a certain extent for the fact that the East has been more intimately associated with the existing organization. In the past the advice and cooperation of the Western golfers have always been appreciated and desired and their participation welcomed in every phase of the ad- 23% per cent. were men; and not only th ministration of the game in this country. and the same I believe is true to-day. The that on neither side of the sea can we deal arrangement of the championships as to with the question of Asiatic exchange (the time and place has at all times been govereal "silver question") by pretending that erned solely by what was believed to be the best interests of the game and the players at large.
The proposal of our Western friends to

do away with the nominating committee. leaving the officers to be chosen at nual meeting, seems to me almost impracticable, and certainly better results should be obtained by leaving the selection to the more deliberative action of a committee. Irrespective of this, the most serious phase

of the situation is that two associations laiming substantially equal authority would inevitably work to the injury of the sport. With two associations there might be two sets of rules and interpretations. It is the general opinion that it has been

most fortunate that the United States Golf Association has followed closely and shared to a certain extent in the making of the rules and regulations of the game with St. Andrews, as it has tended to a general uniformity at home and abroad. To my mind the association has answered and is answering its purpose well. It has maintained itself in a position of authority.

which is most desirable and necessary, and its solutions of difficult questions of policy have given general satisfaction. It is to be hoped that our friends in other sections of the country will consider the two classes of savings banks, matter further before any more definite stock kaid and "those of New England and active steps are taken to organize called 'the old style banks,' organized genanother national body, as I fully believe erally by retired men of benevolent purit is in every way for the best interests of our steel, cotton and leather industries, and the sport and all concerned in its welfare the bank being conducted without capita

#### WASHINGTON B. THOMAS. NEW YORK, January 4.

The Three Professions in China. in China," said Dr. B. M. Ferkins of Shanghal. Dr. Perkins has been in China over ten years and

"Those three professions are law, medicine

in this country on a visit to friends and rela-

result of the efforts of foreigners. "Chinese medical men have not been in very good standing among their own people for

fellows in the medical line, and, all things considered, Chinese dentistry, while it cannot compare with modern dentistry as practised in is far above what might have been expected. There are no requirements for admission to

bar. Each consular court has its rules for admission, and when an attorney is allowed to practice in one court it is taken as an international discrimination if any other consular court does

not extend like courtesy.
"There is but a limited field for the law in China at best, and most of it is already occupied by men who are well established, whose business is protected by the intense conservatism of the dominant British. It can safely be said that there is little to encourage a young man entering upon the practice of law in a Chinese port. Unless he is able to buy his way into an old established firm his struggle for business is fully as keen as it would have been at home, and he has neither the field to work in nor the restrictions to and protect him from mistakes as he has at

#### Mercantile Fleets of the World The annual shipping statistics just published by the fleet tonnage has increased by 628,000 pet tonnage over last year. The mercantile steam-ship fleets of the principal nations, with their in-

crease or decrease of tonnage, are:	
	Increase in
Country. Tonnage	tme Year.
Great Britain	0 172,000
Germany 2.267.06	60,000
United States 1,263.00	0 55,000
Norway 841.00	000480 0
France 802.00	0 75,000
Japan. 683,00	0 16,000
Italy	
Netherlands 523,00	0 13,000
Russia 483,00	
Sweden 428,00	
Austria 443.00	
Spain 428,00	
Total tonnage	0

The decrease in sailing vessel tonnage continues

nineteen years, 1880 to 1908, the total has run from 11,081,000 to 6,903,000, while in the same period the steam tonnage has increased from 718,000 to 20,835,000. The sailing fleet etherlands, at one time by far the largest in the world, now takes tourteenth place, with orts 1.000 tonnage, while the American satting fleet is now second to that of Great Britain. The tonnage of these two nations is: Great Britain, 1,501,000), the United States, 1,500,000,

#### Whistling on Sabbath in Scotland. I rom the London Chronicle.

Concerning the Scottish reprobation of ling on the Sabbath, Dean Ramsay has a characeristic story. A famous Glasgow artist met an wing account of what he called "the birth id Highland acquaintance unexpectedly. aid, what brought you here" "Ou, weel, si: it was a band place you; they were bead but they're a God fearin' set o' fost here." "Well, Douald, I'm glad to hear it." "Co. ay, sir. 'deed are they; an' I'll gie ye an instance o't. Last Sabbath just as the kirk was skallin' there was a drover chield frae Dumfries comin' along the road whistlin', an' lookin' as bappy as if it was ta middle o' the week. Weel, sir, oor leads is a God fearin' set o' laads, an' they were just comi o' the kirk 'od they yekit upon him an' a'most

### Bickens's Last Pen

From the London Daily News. on the mantelpiece of Messrs. Sotbeby's in Well ingtou street a quill pen such as you can buy for This particular one, however, brought 4.680 pence yesterday, or £19 10s. It had longed to Charles Dickens and is said to be that which was used at the last when he was writing It was taken from the move! ist's table at Gad's Hill by his eldest sen.

#### Not Rural. Knicker-Does Jones thipk himself some pump-

Bocker-No; by the way he runs in debt he thinks himself a city

### THE SCHOOL POPULATION One-Fifth of the Inhabitants in the Com-

mon Schools Last Year Volume 1 of the report of the sioner of Education.

Broadly speaking, the educational ems and institutions of the United State public and private, enrolled in 1906-t the neighborhood of 19,000,000 pupils of rades and classes. About 20 per cent the total population attended the comschools for a longer or a shorter per This percentage had been pretty near time, however, the average length of common school year had advanced f 130 days to a little over 150 days, and percentage of those enrolled who were the average in actual attendance each of this longer school year had advance

While the proportion of the popular who went to school at all had not increase far as I have known, is solely that it is diffi- the remarkable increase in those attending high schools and other schools of midd grade still continued, reaching in that ye 1906,07, about 1.13 per cent, of the wh population. In round numbers one of every ninety of our people was enrolled best suited the majority of the 300 in a college or other institution of highe education. Inasmuch as an approach these high proportions has been going for many years and the length of the any one pupil is in a school of any gra is only a fract'en of the average length dicated was much higher than would are pear from the number enrolled for the year under consideration

Of the total number of teachers in the common schools of the country, about 475,000 in all in that year, 1906-07, less that percentage but the actual number of mar teachers had been steadily declining for ten years or more. The average monthly salary of both man and woman teachers in the meantime had been slowly rising, ye so slowly that it had failed to keep pace with other expenditures for educational pu poses. While the proportion of school noneys devoted to building and other "permanent improvements" had been advaning for nearly twenty years the proportion devoted to the personal services of teach ers had been slowly receding. In the year 1900-07 the distribution of our comm school fund was about as follows: For build ings, sites, &c., one-fifth; for teachers' sal aries, three-fifths; for other purposes, onefifth. The total expenditure so distributed amounted in the year 1:03-07 to something over \$330,000,000. For the same yearthe expenditure for education of all grades both public and private, in this country rose to approximately \$442,000,000.

### POSTAL BANKS. Are Post Offices Safe Keeping Places for

Money? TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In the recent debate in the United States Senate ou the bill to establish postal savings banks Senator Carter of Montana, advocating the passage of the bill, stated that there are pose, who serve as directors without pay to give to the United States Golf Associa- and wholly and solely conducted in the in-

terest of the depositors Senator Depew, also favoring the bil stated that "fourteen States have virtually all the savings institutions, and thirty-two States and the Territories have practically "There are three professions in particular shirt aggregate \$3,590,000 in round numbers, a China," said Dr. B. M. Perkins of the professions while in the other thirty-two States The New England States and New York have twice as many deposits as all the other

three professions are law, medicine the seems a little strange that more of these old style banks where the directors from that in other lands, and it will be some time before Chinese competition in any of them will be some the positors and without pay are not organized in other portions of the country and then It seems a little strange that more of be felt except through foreign training and as a there would be little need of the posts! of which there is so much opposition. Although Senator Depew, alluding to the dan-"Chinese dentists have done more than their ger to which a man who keens his money In his own possession is exposed, said "nearly every day in the newspapers are account of crimes of murder and arson committed upon isolated farms, at coal mines eamps and lumber camps, and all of them for robbery," he made no 'mention of the boldest class of robbers, who ply their trade with little hindrance from national or State authorities, the post office safe robbers who often visit the same post office time

and again for the few stamps obtained It is not intended if the postal savings bank hill becomes a law that the funds shall be kept any great length of time in the post offices, although it is quite a question post offices, although it is quite a question what shall be done with the money upon which it is proposed that the Government shall pay interest, but it will be necessary that more money be kept at the post offices if the law is enacted than at present, and it will be very necessary to devise some method of protecting the post offices against the attacks of the yeggmen. Little attention seems to be paid to their depredations at present. The post office in an adjoining town was entered last July, the safe blown open and properly abstracted. The postmaster, a country merchant, employed local officers to attempt to trace the roobers at his own expense, but without success, and recently the same post office was entered and quite a quantity of stamps abstracted. Some trail of the fugitives was obtained, and the postmaster again at his own expense had the case investigated, and finally at his request a complaint in a United States court has been made against two men supposed to be the burglars. The papers contain frequent accounts of similar post office robberies, and it is not often that the perpetrators are arrested. Although the burglaries are not as frequent as they were a few years ago, if money as well as stamps is kept in the post office safes in any considerable quantile. what shall be done with the money upon

# if money as well as stamps is kept in the post office safes in any considerable quality it is probable that there will be not of these burglaries. Litchfield, Conn., January 4. Troops Formed of Foreigners.

From the London Chronicle. The Foreign Legion is composed of a very beterogeneous lot, who have found Europe for hot for them, and it is a curious thing that the German element seems to predominate to this French force. Most of these Germans are to setters from their own army, though in the Lexion they soon find that it is even worse than an ordinary case of "out of the frying pan into the fire." The legion is now almost the vival from the days when Kings and Govern ments accepted the service of foreign troops upless indeed another instance of the same kinis furnished by the Pope's present Swiss Guard though this is composed of men of first rate char acter. The Garde Ecossaise of the Kings of Fran-was another good example of those allen mecenaries. The Scots a hundred in number wh formed for centuries the body guard of the French

#### mous Cent Gardes, who sentinelled the Tuiler under Napoleon III. British Soldiers' New Out At

Kings, had their modern counterpart in the is

From the Landon Graphie. An Aldershot correspondent writes: An important change is now being made in the infanto men's equipment. The old outat is being supe seded by the new "web equipment," which sure to be heartily welcomed by the men. great improvement has been effected in the tribution of weight. In marching order neither the bandoller nor the haversack strap is worn. the chest is left quite free and breathing is ma easier. When in lighting kit nothing that is no essential to action will be carried, but the bando

### Two Advanced Thinkers.

Her will have to be added.

Murdock essays to tear away the mouldy for smelling draperies that a burst of God's sunlight may pierce the musty caverns of this mausileum of the past. He cares little about the pr ervation of skeletons or time of sacred ashe but much about the health of the community at the compoun good of all. The gigantic spawn igacrance-precedent-supported by the shie of prejudice and the arrow of invective, exce itself no more venomously against the "beres. of Newton and Galileo, than against the advances proclathed by Romevelt and Murdock